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O. PALMER,

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SPEAKING TO THE BUTCHER

By John H. McNeely.

"Mr. Ramfounder, you will have to speak to the butcher in the morning," ejaculated Mrs. Ramfounder, as her husband reached his family domicile from the office. "There was a premonitory tone in her voice."

"Certainly," replied Ramfounder.

"Mr. Ramfounder, can't you pay attention to what I say without turning everything off with an affirmative reply when you really don't know what I am trying to impress upon your mind? I just stated that I would like to have you speak to the butcher in the morning."

"Of course I will speak to him. Don't I always speak to him every morning as I pass his shop on my way to the office?"

"There you go, Mr. Ramfounder, presenting you don't understand, but I can see that you are merely regaling ignorance. You take delight in irritating me so that I have to go into the long details. The butcher, Mr. Ramfounder, has been giving us such miserable meat that I have been compelled to warn him on several occasions. He doesn't pay the slightest heed to me. He sends us the poor steaks out of pure meanness and basality. Now, I suppose you comprehend in your shallow brain what I mean, although I am certain that you understand from the very beginning. Now, I don't want you to speak to the butcher when you go past his shop in the morning."

"I see what you mean now, Mrs. Ramfounder," interrupted her husband. "You want me to stop speaking to the butcher in the morning about giving us bad meat and tell him that you will not pay for it if he doesn't do better. Then, Mr. Ramfounder, I don't want you to speak to him at all. He is so contemptible and despicable that I do not care to have my husband talk to him. Surely, Mr. Ramfounder, you do not intend to lower yourself and sacrifice your wife's self-respect by speaking to a man of his character. If he had any principle he would send us good meat instead of accepting our money and then giving us nothing in return. Remember, do not speak to him again as long as you live or you will regret it. I shall show him a thing."

"I won't speak to him then."

"That's right, Mr. Ramfounder, keep saying that you won't speak to him when I have just finished explaining that I want you to speak to him in the morning and take him over the coals. I want to ask you if you intend to stand there all evening now and repeat the same statement that you are not going to speak to the butcher about the meat when I have said nothing except request you to tell him in an emphatic manner that you are tired of eating his poor steaks and chops? I suppose I will have to get a cleaver and whack you over the head to let a little light in upon your brain. Just give me your attention for a moment, Mr. Ramfounder. Speak to the butcher in the morning and then stop. Do you comprehend now or shall I write it out on a large sheet of paper for your benefit?"

"I think I see what you mean," said Ramfounder. "I am to speak to the butcher and then stop."

"Certainly! And why couldn't you understand before, Mr. Ramfounder? It is so simple. But just a moment; you are not to speak to him in the morning and then stop before you have told him about the mean meat he has been sending and also that you will not pay him. If he doesn't give us better meat, and in addition you might take a final filing by declaring in strong terms that we will go to another butcher unless there is a marked improvement in the very near future. Then, Mr. Ramfounder, you can stop speaking to him, and don't you dare defy me by speaking to him again as long as you have breath in your body."

Some Big Nuggets.

Possidon, the newest Australian goldfield, is producing some remarkable nuggets. One, shaped exactly like a baseball, was recently found there lying on the surface, the finder at first mistaking it for a mushroom. And now, from the same place, comes news of a nugget of 103 ounces closely resembling a nautilus shell. This was found by an Irishman, and on the adjoining claim a Scotchman, named Mackenzie, almost simultaneously paled a 38-ounce nugget on the palm of his pick. Furthermore, a boy driving a baker's cart over the Possidon field saw the gleam of gold in the grass. He got down and picked up a nice little nugget of 40 ounces.

Expatiates.

"Funny what a little thing will give you comfort when you are far away from home and friends," said a girl who had just returned from France. "I sat on a platform at Cannes, the hot, hot and miserable to wish to live any longer. Suddenly I saw a big, big box, and the smell caught my eye. It held a farm wagon mounted in my own home city in a western state. I went right over and got the box, kicked my heels around, I patted it, and said lots of things to it, and took my train. It was a hundred times better in a minute."

The Old Familiar Faces

By WILL LEVINGTON COMPTON

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Peele was a wandering Englishman with certain virtues and a great deal to say. Keebler, who sat beside him on the balcony of a fonda overlooking the plaza of Bogota, was a Chicago special who was just now engaged in covering the features of a Colombian revolution for the Express Syndicate. The two were talking about Graver, a free lance, who sat in his room back of the balcony, gazing unto desperation an unclad and tropical-ruined typewriter. The hopes and memories of Graver also moved in a Chicago setting, though it appears that he hunked and rode and shared labor with Keebler for other and unknowable reasons.

"It isn't in human fiber to endure any such amount of work," Keebler whispered. "Graver's been at it for 16 hours a day for 16 times 16 days." "A desecration," said Peele. "It shews money-gran' is bound to be shoddy, y' know."

"That's where you're wrong, Peele," Keebler remarked. "I know Graver's stuff. It's good and clean and gritty. You can turn it in without editing. He was liked back in Chicago; so was his stuff. I don't pretend to understand his energy since we came here, because he liked to lounge back in Chicago as well as any of us."

"Myb'e married a girl just before he came."

"No, he's been married for three or four years. That didn't make the difference. He was always square at home, you know."

"E's a free-lance, I'm tauld," Peele said languidly, "un-limited spye 'n' all that. Tell me nawn, 'ow much does e' myke?"

"Altogether too much—an amount, wholly unnewspaperlike. Fifty or sixty dollars a day, likely. And he don't write easily—inborns, groans, sweats blood before he gets it coming."

A fit of coughing in Graver's room silenced the typewriter. Afterward there was the squeak of a drawn cork, the suggestion of a gurgle, followed by a harsh expulsion of breath, as from one nauseated.

"And that's all new, too," Keebler resumed, half-angrily. "Stupitulant! It's so easy, so devilish easy, to get used to working that way. I believe I'll go and rope him down, strangle him and make him see the right way!"

"I wouldn't, y' know," Peele said thoughtfully. "Myb'e he's got his reasons. . . . What I have seen! What I have seen! Why till y've been back 'n forth 're for five years as I ave. . . . I 'ave ad playmates! I 'ave ad companions . . . all, all are gone, the old familiar fyes!"

And therupon Peele went down deep into his inner consciousness and brought forth a tale, a repellent, barbare—tale of Colombia, that would have been bad enough in a metropolitan clubroom, but had no place whatsoever in the mids of a land that swarmed with sinister menaces and swift and dreadful modes of death.

The bells had rung midnight, but Bogota was still awake. For hours Luogo's column of 18,000 men had lain partly in, but mostly out, of the town like a snake with its head in a foul jug. White-coated, bare-footed figures slid to and fro across the plaza, complicating the shadows and corrupting the patches of light. On the following dawn, Gen. Luogo was to move his column of government defenders out into the Cordilleras to meet and stop the rebel, Torron, who was marching his army in to take the capital.

"I haven't been here quite a year yet, much less five," said Keebler, breaking the silence which followed the tale, "but I have seen enough, God knows! I have been shot at and apologized to because I was missed. I have seen children cowhided into soldiers; I have seen fifteen hundred dead on one field; I have seen the teeth of the dead knocked out with musket-butts for the gold they contained! I do not know about the rest of South America, but I do know that compared to Colombia, darkest Africa is as bright as the Southern Cross and Siberia as chaste as the Milky Way. . . . And I was told when I left the office in Chicago to bring out the opera bouffe. I thought I would lie in a hammock and watch a peacock revolution—heh!"

Graver's pale face was thrust out of the doorway.

"Say, fellows," he said bashfully, "what is that smell that comes up over the balcony—jasmine or magnolia? I want to use it, and I never could tell the difference between a tulip and a turnip."

"Jasmine or magnolia!" Keebler repeated. "They'll be bloomin' over your long-geared grave if you don't quit pushing this work-matter into fanaticism. You smell garlic and doble cigarettes and have worked yourself into a maudlin state of flowers."

Graver drew back with a smile. He was exceedingly tall, apparently about thirty years old. Pallor overpowered the tan upon his face and his brown eyes were misty, half-desperate with illness and fatigue. Peele sought his mosquito netting soon afterward, and Keebler remained upon the balcony to finish a cigar. . . . The coughing began again, and the smell was prolonged. Keebler hurried to the other's room. He found Graver doubled over in a chair, nervously endeavoring to hide the evidences of a hemorrhage. Keebler helped his friend to the cot in the corner.

"Boys," he said, raising his hand to command silence, "oblige me by turning that 'Hot Time' business into a dirge!"

"And may I ask one more favor?"

QUEER ENGLISH MILK WAGONS.

Gorgeous Floats with Brass Churns and Ben Hur Drivers.

In English towns, a Canadian visitor declares in the Queen, the foreigner runs out to the pavement just to see that glorious chariot called a milk float go by—that gay bit of a two-wheeled thing, white and yellow, white and blue, or red, white and blue, with the shining brass churn erect at the side, the reins coming over the shining brass rail in front, the little square inset inserted at the rear, and the chariot standing at the back like Ben Hur and driving as much like that hero as—in a modern town where even motor cars are unknown—is practical.

Then the English milkman who comes on foot, with a modern yoke on his shoulders, and swinging at each side a brass-bound tin pail, in which is a queer little measuring dipper. Who could wish to have milk delivered in glass bottles, with a paper-sealed top, when he can have it measured at his door into his own jug in this quaintly curious fashion? What do microcosms amount to when compared with the joy of the medieval!

SHREWD SCHEME OF MOTHER.

No Rosette Postcard Without Its Thorn of Suggestion.

Harold's mother—well call him Harold—went abroad a month ago, leaving Harold under the somewhat unsubstantial control of his elder sisters.

In spite of the itemized directions with which even unto the moment of final leave-taking she had not ceased to bombard him, Harold's mother was far from sure that her efforts would have any lasting effect.

Her voyage was more or less disturbed by these doubts, but before she landed on the other side she had determined on a course of action. Like all small boys, Harold is most covetous of picture postcards and had looked forward to a harvest from his mother's trip.

He got it.

Every day she sent at least one card. And, whatever else it bore in the way of inscription, there was not one which failed of this introduction: "Just as soon as you get this go and brush your teeth."

Made Carlyle "Shell Out."

Rev. Thomas Alexander, a Presbyterian minister, long resident in Chesea and well known as a brother Scot, was most anxious to know Carlyle, but had no opportunity of getting an introduction to him. One day in the King's road he saw Carlyle coming in his direction and took advantage of the opportunity by going up to the sage and saying: "Thomas Carlyle, I believe?" Carlyle's reply was: "Tom Alexander, I know!" They became good friends, and later Mr. Alexander wrote to Carlyle for a subscription toward a school building fund, and Carlyle wrote back a refusal in doggerel, whereupon Mr. Alexander replied that if he did not send him £5 (£25) he would sell his poetry to a collector or publish it. The £5 was at once forthcoming.

Mad Carlyle "Shell Out."

"Of all my sea experiences," said the captain, "this was the strangest."

The ladies at the handsome captain's table said hush to one another, turned to the ruddy mariner with lisping smiles.

"We were carrying," he said, "a lot of troop horses. A dreadful storm overtook us, and for two days we wallowed in the trough of a heavy sea. Finally it was decided that, to lighten the ship, the horses must go overboard."

"They went overboard in the morning. As soon as they saw that they were abandoned they turned and began to swim bravely after us. Bravely, desperately they swam. They followed us for miles and miles. I can still see them, a long line, their necks arched, pushing heroically through the heavy sea.

"They sank, poor brutes, one by one."

The captain smiled sadly.

"And I still seem to have," he said, "all those deaths on my conscience."

Proxy Pilgrims.

There are men who make their living by being pilgrims—by performing, over and over again, the difficult pilgrimage to Mecca. These wanderers are called proxy pilgrims.

No Mahometan, no matter how good his life, can be sure of going to heaven unless he makes the long pilgrimage. But the long pilgrimage takes time and money. Hence a priest discovered that it could equally well be made by proxy. And now from Constantinople, from Cairo, from Jeddah the caravans to Mecca are mostly made up of proxies. A pilgrim can proxy for more than one person—for a dozen if he likes. A caravan of 1,000 persons may actually represent—by proxy—50,000 devout pilgrims.

An Americanizing Influence.

"If any proof is needed that baseball tends to promote good citizenship among newly-arrived immigrants, just keep your ears open when at a rattling good game and hear the international rooting," said a veteran "fan." "Foreign visitors of aristocratic tendencies decry our national game, but there is no doubt that it is one of the first of American institutions to appeal to the average new-comer. Even before familiarizing themselves with the national yell they seek true Americanism by the baseball route, and every day the bleachers resound with the 'Hochs' and 'Bravos' of our embryo citizens."

Children's Bad Teeth.

Governments, the world over, are coming to realize that it is their duty to look after school children's teeth. The crushing power of false teeth is only from one-fifth to a half that of natural ones, and the mouth filled with false teeth cannot be quite healthy. But even by taking hold of the teeth in childhood it is difficult to make them last a lifetime. Out of 100,000 children 35 per cent are found to have diseased teeth. This is the proportion in America, Germany, England and Russia. Of 100 children of 12 years, only 15 have teeth that need no attention.

Answer That Pleated Bishop.

The late Bishop Potter was of the mind that Clara Morris was the wittiest woman on the stage. For this opinion he gave as reason her greeting when he called upon her at her place, The Pines, at Riverdale-on-the-Hudson.

"Now that you're here, I don't know any more what to do with you than I would a Gatling gun," said she.

"Treat me in the same manner," he suggested.

"Fire you," retorted Miss Morris.

"Never!"

More Fitting.

The brass band was serenading the bride who, according to the early returns, had been elected.

As he appeared on his front porch to acknowledge the compliment a boy handed him a telegram.

He opened it and read it.

"Boys," he said, raising his hand to command silence, "oblige me by turning that 'Hot Time' business into a dirge!"

"And may I ask one more favor?"

APPETITE AND THE EMOTIONS.

Why Shouldn't One Eat, Even if Very Happy or Very Sad?

The following really happened on board a pleasure steamer in the Kyle of Bute. A young honeymoon couple were sitting side by side, gazing on the lovely scenery around them.

"Isn't it heavenly, George?" she murmured. "I feel thrills all over me."

Then without a pause, as if still carried away by the inspiration of the moment: "Dearest, if there are any left, I think I would like a chocolate."

No good reason exists why spiritual emotions should not make one hungry. The bride who demanded sweets was wiser than a girl who once remained starving and inconsolable in her room after the departure of her lover for India.

At last an amateur Hebe ventured upstairs with a cup of coffee and a plate of toast. Yielding to persuasion, the afflicted maiden was induced to eat and drink, and began to look somewhat less dejected.

"I believe I was dying for something all the time," she finally confessed; "but I was afraid to ask, lest people would believe me to be less unhappy than I really am."—Black and White.

HAT BROKE UP THE CONCERT.

Remarkable Headgear Responsible for Spilling Performance.

RABBITS ARE HARD FIGHTERS.

The Charge of Cowardice a Slander—Defeat of a Ferret.

A story has reached this country of a hat which spilt an afternoon performance at a small French playhouse. It appears that in the absence of an orchestra a lady presided over the piano. She was neither young, pretty nor talented, and not wishing to pass unnoticed conceived the idea of wearing a hat that would attract the attention of the audience.

In this she was successful. The hat looked like a good-sized umbrella covered with flowers, ribbons and birds. As the lady took her seat the surprise it caused hushed the audience into silence; when, however, the pianist struck the first notes and the flowers, ribbons and birds began a mad dance, the storm

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

NO BEAUTY IN THE SIMPLE LIFE.

By Ida May Kracker.

The truly simple life in the twentieth century is not to rough it like a savage or a wild bird, but to render it easy, simple, to secure the complex needs for our complex organizations.

The simple life brotherhood argue for "raw foods." They are a step backward toward the time when there was little else to do besides eat, and time was not a desideratum. True, they make muscle. But modern man needs brain rather than brawn, and endurance more than brute strength.

The cry is for the simple life, and the simple life is interpreted in terms of raw food, wood chopping and log cabins, because we have not yet perfected our environment; we have not adapted it perfectly to our needs. We have not made it simple to get what we require. Civilization is only beginning. After a time it will be just as easy for us to get our beautiful homes, and our music, art, finished educations, and other luxuries of high culture as it now is for a savage to loll under his banyan tree and catch the plump fruit as it falls.

PHYSIQUE SHOULD FIT THE JOB.

By John A. Howland.

Everywhere the modern civilization has built up on the line of least resistance. This fact has applied to individuals no less than to communities and to nations. To whatever extent the individual man leads himself to the reverse of the universal dictum, he handicaps himself. There may be no physical or mental reason why a man eight feet tall should not get a position as ribbon salesman in a department store. But the chances are that a line of least resistance will open for him at several hundred dollars a week, to a show platform in a museum of freaks.

Let an educated, refined man of good appearance apply in dire need to some employer who has only a coarse laborer's position to offer the applicant. Regardless of

how much the man may be in need of an honest dollar, the employer will seek a first excuse as to why his applicant should not take the one place that he has to give him. He feels that the work is beneath the capabilities of the man.

In just such measure as this the young man has need to consider his physical and temperamental fitness for his chosen work. Sub-consciously the world looks to the worker to have a physique and bearing that are in keeping with his chosen occupation. To the extent that there are incongruities the worker must suffer handicap because of them.

TEACH HEALTH LAWS IN SCHOOL.

By Dr. Healy H. Almond.

Let us all awake to the belief that the laws of health are the laws of God, as binding on us as if they had been thundered forth from Sinai; that if those which are now known with certainty were applied in practice, the improvement in human life, morality and happiness would be stupendous. Man is greater than his surroundings, and the production of a breed of men and women, even in our great cities, less prone to disease and pain, more noble in aspect, more rational in habits, more exultant in the pure joy of living, is scientifically possible.

Many years ago I was a member of a school board. I ventured to propose regular open air drill for the children. I remember how the chairman, with a benevolent smile, suggested that we pass on to some practical business. Something of the same sort happened when I once complained of the fine assortment of evil games and human exhibitions in our school where the master was smitten with a fear of "drafts," and preserved each day's air carefully for use on the next.

My own belief is that not more than six hours per diem should be devoted to sedentary work in schools, and certainly not more than one and a half in winter and two and a half in summer to games. The rest of the time should be largely occupied with military drill, with work in the gymnasiums, in the workshops, at target, in various kinds of manual labor, or in singing—an excellent exercise for the lungs—or in playing musical instruments.

LIFE'S GIFTS.

When I grow gray and men shall say

to me "What was the worth of living, truly told?"

Lo! Thou hast lived thy life out: thou art old;

Thou hast gathered fruit from many a green-leaved tree,

And kissed love's lips by many a summer sea;

And twined soft hands in locks of shining gold,

But all the days are dead days now, be hold!

Life pauses onward—what is life to thee?"

Then will I answer, as thy gracious eyes, Love, gleam upon me from dim far-off skies:

"Life had its endles, deathless charms—and still

That charm weaves rapture round me at my will,

Life has its glory—for I have seen Thee, And roses, and June sunsets—and the sea."

—George Barlow.

rounder—late suppers and lots of red liquor, no doubt?"

"No, no," said the girl quickly. "Jim isn't like that."

"Never goes anywhere, eh? Always moping at home and refusing to take you anywhere?"

"No," said the girl. "Jim always took me wherever I wanted to go."

"Close with his money perhaps. For ever grumbling about the household expenses?"

The girl opened her eyes very wide.

"Jim never did that. Why, I've always saved part of the money he allowed me. He never grumbled about it."

"He had an ungovernable temper, then? Struck you, perhaps?"

The girl's face turned white.

"Struck me! Jim couldn't do that."

"There, there," said the old man. "Of course, he couldn't. Then I'll have to conclude that he's a married firt. Very fond of the ladies, isn't he?"

A dull red surged into the girl's cheeks.

"No," she said in a low voice.

"Now, my dear," said the old man, "let us bear about the material on which you expect to base your charges. You and Jim quarreled?"

"Dreadfully," replied the girl with a shudder.

"And what was it all about?"

"I don't remember how it started," said the girl. "It was something quite silly. I think Jim was very cross

when he came home, and—

and he found fault with the biscuits—and they were not very good, but Jim had no right to

so sarcastically about them—and I had a headache and wasn't a bit well

She gave a little start and opened her black eyes very wide.

"Why, what else can I have?"

His voice was grave. "Jim's love."

The tears filled her eyes.

"It's too late for that," she half sobbed. "Jim's gone to see his lawyer."

The old man looked at his watch.

"That reminds me. Who is Jim's lawyer?"

"His name is Paulding, Jasper Paulding."

"Eh!" exclaimed the old man. "Why, I never saw his sign as I came through the hall. And it's just 12 o'clock."

Then he turned quickly and hurried down the hall. When he reached the door that bore the name of Jasper Paulding he opened it and entered.

Two men were seated at the table. One was nearing middle age. The other was a young man, a good looking young man, tall and muscular.

"There are occasions," said the old man, "when it seems justifiable to deviate from established rules. This is one of them." He looked hard at the young man. "I have heard your wife's sad story," he gravely said.

And despite the gravity of his tone the young man almost believed he saw a twinkle in the old eyes.

"I feel quite sure," he said, "that my wife didn't paint me any darker than I deserved to be painted. Mr. Paulding will tell you, sir, that I came here only to arrange for the payment into Angela's hands of a fixed sum each week."

The old man arose.

"I am a little pressed for time," he said. "I go aboard the French liner this afternoon. Will you trust your client with me, Mr. Paulding?"

"Certainly, general," cried the lawyer. "He couldn't be in better hands. Good-bye, sir, and a safe voyage."

A moment later the two men stood before the library door.

"Your wife is in there, Jim Robbins," said the old man softly, "and she's much too dear a wife and too sweet a girl to be lost through foolish pride. Do you understand?"

"Yes, sir," the young man answered.

"I begin to understand."

They shook hands and then the young man quickly opened the door and as quickly closed it behind him.

The old man nodded and gently smiled. Then he looked at his watch and with a sudden exclamation left the room.

Five minutes later a puzzled look crossed the young wife's face.

"How did you know I was here?"

"Your lawyer told me."

The young wife clapped her hands.

"Isn't he the dear old man?" she cried. —W. R. Rose in Cleveland Plain Dealer.

IN BEHALF OF THE CAT.

Probably no domestic animal is the object of such studious neglect as the cat, declares the Milwaukee Free Press.

Because she is undemonstrative and almost invariably takes a back seat for the dog, because of the latter's mandarin identification of himself with his master.

We do not wish to underestimate the fine qualities of affection, courage, and sagacity which are the dog's, but neither do we like to see the wide-spread lack of appreciation for the cat's many admirable traits. Patience, endurance, good judgment, self-control, self-reliance, high spirits, and industry—many or all of these are possessed by the average cat.

Under favorable conditions she will also develop a strength of affection not devoid of demonstration that is equal to the dog's.

The most esthetic souls of all times have cherished the cat, Boudelatire, Von Schefel, Poe, De Musset, Henry Irving, and a host of other lovers of the beauties come to mind in this connection. The sickly feline of padded footfall and insidious wanderings, has ever appealed to the imagination, just as she has ever appealed to the sense of domestic comfort.

"Me! He didn't call me anything."

"Didn't he say the cruel things about you?"

"No-no. He said the meanest things you ever heard about Chicago."

The old man drew a quick breath.

"And of course you retaliated by saying still meaner things about New York."

"No, I didn't," he girl returned. "I know so little about New York I couldn't think of anything to say."

"That's true." He looked at her keenly. "Of course nothing will satisfy me except a divorce."

"Father sends me an allowance and I think I would like to find something to do—something to make me feel independent."

"Don't you expect to ask for alimony?"

"No, no," cried the girl. "I don't want anything that belongs to Jim."

"A very proper spirit," said the old man with a queer little twinkle in his eye. "And how old is Jim?"

"Twenty-five on the 7th of June. He's quite a few older than I am."

"I'm getting enough to cling to his clothes, believe me! A lively young

HUGO KINGS SPECIALLY DIES.

Founder of Hugo Brothers Is Victim of Pneumonia.

Claus Spreckels, widely known as the "Sugar king of the Pacific coast," died at 4:30 o'clock Saturday morning at his home in San Francisco in his eightieth year. The immediate cause of death was an attack of pneumonia, which developed with alarming symptoms during the past few days. His condition Christmas night told his physicians death was near and relatives remained at his bedside until the hour of his death.

Despite his advanced age Mr. Spreckels had devoted a large share of attention to the various enterprises in which he was interested, and it is not more than a month since he appeared before the Ways and Means Committee of the House in Washington as an authority on the subject of sugar duties.

Claus Spreckels was born in Lübeck, Germany, in 1822, and came to the United States in 1840. After being employed for some time in Charleston, S. C., and New York he came to San Francisco, reaching this city in 1850. He established a store there and later conducted a brewery. In 1860 he built the Bay Sugar Refinery and began the importation of raw material from Hawaii. Prospering in this business, he established other refineries and promoted the beet sugar industry by establishing refineries and engaging in the farming of beets on a large scale. He also built a refinery at Philadelphia, invested largely in the Oceanic Steamship Company and many other enterprises, including the building of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad.

INVITES TWO NATIONS.

President Roosevelt Asks Canada and Mexico to Aid in Conservation.

Announcement has been made at the White House in Washington of a proposed plan for a conference looking toward the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held at the White House Feb. 18 next. Letters suggesting the plan have been addressed by President Roosevelt to the Governor General and to the Premier of Canada and to President Diaz of Mexico. They will be delivered to the officials in person by Gifford Pinchot, chairman of the National Conservation Commission and chief forester of the United States, whom President Roosevelt has chosen as his personal representative to convey the invitations and to confer with the authorities of the two governments. Mr. Pinchot will visit Canada. He then will carry the invitation to President Diaz at the City of Mexico.

The proposed North American conference is the outgrowth of the two conservation conferences held in Washington, in which the governors of the States and Territories were the principal conferees. The representatives designated by the Canadian and Mexican governments will, under the proposed plan, consult with representatives of the State and other departments of this government and with the National Conservation Commission. The main object of the conference, as announced, will be to point out that natural resources are not limited by the boundary lines which separate nations, to develop a better knowledge of the natural resources of each nation on the part of the others, and to invite suggestions for concert action for the protection of mutual interests related to conservation.

WILL GIVE UP CUBA JAN. 28.

Provisional Government of Island to Terminate on That Date.

Answering Governor Magoon's request for authority to convene the Cuban Congress and give formal possession to the Cuban government on Jan. 28, the following was received the other day from Washington:

Magoon, Havana.—Pursuant to instructions from the President, the Secretary of War directed:

1. That you assemble the Cuban congress on a convenient date, to be selected by you, to act on the credentials of members-elect of the Senate and House of Representatives.
2. That, having passed on the credentials of members-elect and completed their organization, they assemble in joint session to ratify and declare the result of the vote of the electoral college for President and Vice President, and thereafter be in recess until reassembled by you for the purposes specified in the following paragraph:
3. That the terms of office of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of Cuba shall begin on the 28th of January, 1900, on which day they shall be inaugurated; that congress shall be assembled during the forenoon of Jan. 28, 1900, the call therefor specifying the initial duty of congress to be the induction into office of the President and the Vice President, and thereon the consideration of all matters within the jurisdiction of congress at its regular sessions; that the President be inaugurated and the provisional government terminated at 12 o'clock noon on said Jan. 28, 1900.

This means the complete approval of the plan submitted by you.

EDWARDS.

Town Destroyed by Fire.

Practically the entire business section of Raton, Okla., a town of 1,200 inhabitants in Johnston county, was wiped out by fire, the loss aggregating about \$55,000.

This means the complete approval of the plan submitted by you.

Finds Diamonds in a Sheet.

In a sheet which was about to be placed in a mangle in a hotel laundry in Boston was found a \$5,000 diamond necklace belonging to Mrs. John De Coste, wife of the well-known English artist, who is at present in New York.

Two Killed in Strike Battle.

A battle between strike-promoting miners and five United States marshals took place at Stearns, a coal mining town in Whitley county, Ky., and resulted in the death of two men and the wounding of several others.

How fathers must grieve! We are always hearing about it.

How fathers must grieve! We are always hearing about it.

How fathers must grieve! We are always hearing about it.

How fathers must grieve! We are always hearing about it.

How fathers must grieve! We are always hearing about it.

How fathers must grieve! We are always hearing about it.

INTOLERABLE ITCHING.

Powerful Eczema All Over Baby's Face — Professional Treatment Failed—Perfect Cure by Cuticura.
"When my little girl was six months old, I noticed small red spots on her right cheek. They grew so large that I sent for the doctor, but instead of helping the eruption, his ointment seemed to make it worse. Then I went to a second doctor who said it was eczema. He also gave me an ointment which did not help either. The disease spread all over the face and the eyes began to swell. The itching grew intolerable and it was a terrible sight to see. I consulted doctors for months, but they were unable to cure the baby. I paid out from \$20 to \$30 without relief. One evening I began to use the Cuticura Remedies. The next morning the baby's face was all white instead of red. I continued until the eczema entirely disappeared. Mrs. P. E. Gumbin, Sheldon, Ia., July 13, 1908."

Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Proprietors of Cuticura Remedies, Boston.

One Thing Sure.

A young lady whose beauty is equal to her bluntness in conversation was visiting a house where other guests were assembled, among them the eldest son of a rich manufacturer. The talk turned on matrimonial squabbles. Said the eligible part: "I hold that the correct thing for the husband is to begin as he intends to go on. Say that the question was one of smoking. Almost immediately I would settle the question by lighting a cigar and settling the question forever."

"And I would knock the thing out of your mouth," cried the impudent beauty.

"Do you know," rejoined the young man, "I don't think you would be there." —Everybody's Magazine.

Correspondingly Cooley.

"You get twice as much pay as I do," grumbled the elevator boy, "and it ain't fair!"

"There's a difference between us, kid," merrily answered the elevator starter. "You're merely a neophyte. I'm a lux-

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLIQUES ONLY, as this cannot remove the cause of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood, and the body. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quick medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and in a regular prescription. It is composed of the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for free sample.

For CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Gold by Druggists, price 10c.
Take Hall's Family Pill for constipation.

Just as Good.

His Elder Sister—Phil, why don't you wear cuffs?

The Youth—Great Scott, Nell, I do! Look at my pants legs, will you? They're turned up four inches!

PELES CURED IN 6 TO 14 DAYS
PAZZO'S CURE—guaranteed to cure any case of Itching, Itching, Bleeding or Prolonged Piles in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

In reply to an advertisement for a woman typist at a salary of \$3.50 a week, a London firm on March 4 received no fewer than 307 replies.

On the Tombigbee river, Alabama, is enough limestone to supply a cement plant for a century.

Only One "ROMEO QUININE". That is LAXATONE ROMEO QUININE. Look for the signature of E. W. GROVE. Used the World over to cure a Cold in One Day. 25c.

The Baltic sea is not salty enough to sustain the life of the oyster.

Mrs. Winslow's Sore Throat Syrup for Children: Relieves sore throat, coughs, colds, etc. Contains Salicylic Acid and Camphor. 12 oz. \$1.00.

Headache,
Backache,
Sideache,
A Worn-out
Feeling.

These are especially women's afflictions.

They are caused by irregular working of some of the functions of the body.

It is of the utmost importance to every woman to know that there is no medicine so valuable for her, so helpful, so strengthening, as

Lane's Family Medicine
(called also Lane's Tea)

This tonic-laxative is a great blood medicine and is the favorite regulating medicine of old and young.
All druggists sell it in 100 and 250c packages.

WESTERN CANADA

More
Big Crops
In 1908

Another 60,000 Settlers from the United States

**NEW DISTRICTS
OPENED FOR SETTLEMENT**

220 acres of Land to EACH SETTLER—160 Free Homestead and 160 at \$3.00 per Acre.

"A good, rich country and a contented people." Extract from a speech made by Senator A. T. Mahan before the National Education Association in Chicago, 1906, when he was reelected.

"My hope is that the entire west of the United States will be covered with farms and ranches from the Atlantic to the Pacific as a result of the new opportunities."

Spring Wheat, Winter Wheat, Oats, Barley, Flax and Pease are the principal crops while the potato is the great money crop.

Settled Climate. Schools & Churches in all districts. Railways built and graded. Water and Land may be purchased from Walwyn and Lauder Company. For pamphlets, maps and information regarding land and water rights, write to W. D. Walwyn, General Manager of Land and Water Company, 107 East Ontario Street, Ottawa, Canada, or C. C. Brightwell, Room 413, Montreal, Que., and Trust Building, Chicago, Ill.; T. H. Hanna, 315 West Madison St., Paul, Minn.; T. O. Carter, 100 Third Street, Milwaukee, Wis.; W. H. Rogers, 101 Park, Trunko, Wisconsin, and many others.

Please say where you saw this advertisement.

UNIVERSAL SINGLE

100% Pure, Trunko, Wisconsin.

RICHMOND JAP IN AMERICA.

He Owns Many Stores and a Large Shingle Mill in Oregon.

S. Ban, the wealthiest Japanese in the United States, is in Denver for the week, says the Denver Post. Mr. Ban owns stores in Denver, Portland (Ore.), Sheridan (Wyo.), Salt Lake and two in Japan, one of these being one of the largest in Hawaii. In addition he has extensive timber interests and a huge shingle mill in Oregon.

Twenty-one years ago Mr. Ban came to the United States. He was wealthy in Japan, and says that he came to the United States as a place where money could be made rapidly.

"The United States is a wonderful country for any race," said he. "It is the country of opportunities. I have worked hard since I have been in this country and I have been rewarded for my labora."

"The Japanese who come to this country come here to work. You will never find Japanese vagrants. In the last two years Japanese farmers have been coming over to this country and a great many of them have come to Colorado. There are, I am told, more than 35,000 acres in Colorado cultivated by Japanese. One owns a farm of 2,500 acres near Sterling and others own lands varying from a few acres up to 1,000 acres. These farmers paid their own way from Japan; that is, they were not brought over by any company or colonization agent."

This immigration, however, is as all immigration, is retarded now by the Japanese government and extreme care is being exercised in my country in issuing passports."

Justifiable.

Extra—I heard St. Plummer got a verdict of justified homicide for killing' that summer boarder last August, it was sech a cold-blooded crime, too.

Rufus—Wal, that was some new evidence at the trial. First, St. Pl.'s wife told how, when the seller come, he sees a tear on his trousers an' sez, "I see you got a stich in your side." Then St. Pl.'s little gal got up an' evidenced how the seller followed her out to the yard when they was washin' the milk cans an' yell, "Don't you know honesty's the best polery?" Finally, the hired man saw how, on the day of the murder, after he an' St. Pl. had pitched hay from 5 a. m. to 4 p. m., with the temperature like Hindays in the shade, and New York in the sun, they heerd a hymn-like lull behind, and lookin' up, seen that seller under a tree, with a straw hat, an' his flannel trousers rolled nice an' cool, with a refreshin' bottle in his hand, an' he chirpin' "Go it, Rubie. Make hay while the sun shines!" —Puck.

The year 1908, like most of those preceding it, has brought about many changes in all parts of the world. Death has taken rulers and governments in many lines and achievement in many lines have passed into the silent hereafter, fire and flood have levied their toll upon human life and property, greed and hate have inclined to grave crime in numerous instances. But the record is not all dark. Man's activities along peaceful ways have gone steadily forward, achievement has made decided headway, the quiet lives of the majority of earth's people have moved on un vexed by war, pestilence or famine, and a grateful material prosperity seems to be the portion of most of the civilized nations.

Early in February, the king and crown prince of Portugal were assassinated in a street of Lisbon and the crown passed to a young son and brother, the present King Manuel.

The deaths in November, of the Emperor and the Dowager Empress of China

caused a change in the ruling head of the Celestial empire. A new president has more recently taken hold of affairs in Hayti. Bulgaria has declared itself independent of Turkey, and the last named country itself has made radical innovations tending toward a constitutional government.

The necrology of the year is memorable for the number of notable men and women of prominence in the world of art, letters and music who have passed away. Among those to succumb during 1908 were ex-President Grover Cleveland, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, ex-premier of England; Tomas Estrada Palma, Cuban first president; Bishop Henry C. Potter and Rev. Morgan Dix of New York, Ira D. Sankey, Edmund Clarence Stedman, August Wilhelmi, Joel Chandler Harris, Murat Halstead, Bronson Howard, Victorian Sardou, Louise Chandler Moulton, Harriet Hosmer, Clus. Emory Smith and Wm. B. Allison.

The principal events of 1908 may be thus epitomized:

HISTORY MADE DURING THE YEAR OF GRACE 1908

Record Is of Change and Death, but Also of Peace and Prosperity.

NATIONS HAVE NEW RULERS.

Many Persons Known in Statescraft, Politics, Music and Letters Pass Away.

The year 1908, like most of those preceding it, has brought about many changes in all parts of the world. Death has taken rulers and governments in many lines and achievement in many lines have passed into the silent hereafter, fire and flood have levied their toll upon human life and property, greed and hate have inclined to grave crime in numerous instances. But the record is not all dark. Man's activities along peaceful ways have gone steadily forward, achievement has made decided headway, the quiet lives of the majority of earth's people have moved on un vexed by war, pestilence or famine, and a grateful material prosperity seems to be the portion of most of the civilized nations.

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JANUARY.

4—Jury disagrees in trial of Caleb Powers for murder of Gov. Goebel of Kentucky....Jury acquits Geo. A. Pettibone of Illinois....Death of Bronson Howard, American playwright.

10—James S. Sherman of New York nominated for Vice President by Republicans.

24—Death of ex-President Grover Cleveland.

26—\$1,000,000 fire in Duluth.

JULY.

2—Death of Murat Halstead.

4—Death of Joel Chandler Harris.

5—Port au Prince, Hayti, swept by fire.

11—Commander Peary starts for far north.

12—Democratic national convention opens in Denver.

19—Win. J. Bryan nominated for President by Democrats.

21—Death of Bishop Henry C. Potter of New York.

22—United States Court of Appeals reverses Judge Landis' decision fining Standard Oil Company \$29,240,000.

23—Sultan of Turkey grants constitutional government.

28—Independence party nominates His and Graves.

AUGUST.

2—Great fire destroys cities and many lives in British Columbia.

3—\$1,500,000 elevator fire in Chicago.

4—Death of Senator Wm. H. Allison of Iowa....Death of Bronson Howard, American playwright.

8—First general primary election in Illinois.

10—Death of Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton.

12—Death of A. R. Spofford, Librarian of Congress.

13—Fatal race riots in Springfield, Ill....Death of Ira D. Sankey, gospel singer.

21—Great fire in Constantinople.

23—30 miners suffocated in coal mine at Halleyville, Okla.

27—Death of Col. Wm. F. Vilas of Madison, Wis.

30—\$2,000,000 fire in New Orleans.

SEPTEMBER.

1—Vermont election.

3—Death of Lord Lionel Sackville-West, former British minister to Washington.

25—Death of "Ouida," English novelist.

26—\$1,700,000 fire in Chicago.

30—Death of Burr Robbins, well-known circus man.

FEBRUARY.

1—King Carlos and Crown Prince Luis Felipe of Portugal assassinated in streets of Lisbon....Harry Thaw acquits Stanford White murder....Gov. Toole of Montana resigns.

2—Manuel II, proclaimed King of Portugal.

3—Death of Col. Thos. G. Lawlor of Rockford, Ill.

10—Inauguration of King Carlos and Crown Prince Luis Felipe of Portugal.

11—Anthracite centennial celebrated in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

12—Theater fire and panic in Boyertown, Pa., causes 167 deaths and injury of 75 persons....Union station annex in Kansas City burns.

18—Death of Edmund Clarence Stedman, poet....Three miners rescued after being buried for 40 days in mine at Ely, Mo.

19—Death of Chas. Emory Smith of Philadelphia, former Postmaster General.

24—\$1,000,000 fire in Portland, Me....Death of August Wilhelm, noted violinist.

25—Death of Frank P. Surgeon, commissioner of immigration....Rawhide, Nev., destroyed by fire.

26—Forest fires in northern Michigan, Wisconsin and Michigan and across border in Canada.

27—Republicans carry Maine election.

28—Death of Pablo de Sarasate, Spanish violinist.

29—International tuberculosis congress meets in Washington.

OCTOBER.

5—Bulgaria declares itself independent of Turkey.

6—Philadelphia celebrates 225th anniversary.

7—Elmeton explosion at Elmeton, Vt., kills 12 persons.

10—Forest fires rage in Michigan and Wisconsin....Relief train burns near Alpena, Mich., with 20 persons aboard.

BAND CONCERT

Thursday Dec. 31, 1908.

PROGRAM.

Part I.

Overture	Raymond	Amb Thomas
Song of long ago	Looking Backward	Clement
Duet	Trombone and Cornet	Sparks
	Ferdinand Sorenson and Joe Charron	
Overture	Orchestra Hits of 1909	A. Von Tilzer
Duet for two Cornets	Liberatissima Delight	Knowl
Song	Messrs. Clark and Peterson	
	When the Heart is Young, Ops. 67, No. 5	Page
	Miss Anna Meilstrup	

Part II.

Song	Forest Echoes	Kessler
	Little Sweet Mary	
Cornet Solo	Miss Anna Meilstrup	Snyder
	Polka Victor	
Trombone Solo	In the Eternal City	H. Von Tilzer
	Thorwald Peterson	
Saxophone Duet	George Ed. Smart	Geo. McQuaid
	Playmates	
March	Rolla Brink and Francis Reagan	
	National Emblem	

GOOD NIGHT.



LITTLE THINGS THAT CUT

are here for you to select your needs. Then there are all the big things that are necessary to the householder and tools for the carpenter.

DO NOT HAMMER

anything as hard as we hammer our prices. They are so low that we do not know how we do it ourselves. But we hold your custom, and we hold our place at the head, so we guess it is all right.

Salling, Hanson Co.

TEMPLE THEATER! A

MERRY NEW YEAR TO YOU!

MOVING PICTURE SHOW.

EVERY NIGHT

NEW PROGRAM

ADMISSION - 5 cents

DOUBLE SHOW

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

ADMISSION - 10 cents

We will have a choice line of

TURKEYS

DUCKS

GEES

CHICKENS

OYSTERS

for your Christmas dinner.

Place your order with us early and get the best.

Start the New Year Right.

Begin by giving your eyes that long promised REST from the severe strain imposed upon them, with a pair of properly fitted glasses.

Glasses

Do not wait for a chance to break that good resolution. Do not...

Procrastinate

C. J. HATHAWAY
Graduate Optometrist.

Remember

I have a few things left in my stock after Xmas rush MANY nice things suitable for...

FOR SALE OR TRADE.

Have also placed orders for cut-glass and silver to fill in, so can supply your wants at all times.

Yours for a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

C. J. HATHAWAY,
Watchmaker and Jeweler.

Medicine That Is Medicin.

"I have suffered a good deal with malaria and stomach complaints, but I have now found a remedy that keeps me well, and that remedy is Electric Bitters: a medicine that is medicine for stomach and liver troubles, and for run down conditions," says W. C. Kiesler, of Halliday, Ark. Electric Bitters purify and enrich the blood, tone up the nerves, and impart vigor and energy to the weak. Your money will be refunded if it fails to help you. See at A. M. Lewis & Co's drug store.

Notice to Taxpayers.

The Tax Roll of 1908 for the Township of Grayling has been placed in my hands for the collection of taxes, which can be paid every week-day at my office in the brick building between Mr. Peterson's Jewelry store and S. H. Co's store.

A. P. W. BECKER,
Town Treasurer.

PEOPLE'S MARKET,

MILKS BROS; Prop'r's.

Photographer
Positively
Pleases
Particular
Patrons
Promptly at
Popular
Prices.

New Years OR Wedding Presents

Mortgage Sale.

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage made and executed by Eleonora Bates on the 10th day of May 1907 to Sarah E. Bechraft mortgagor, which said mortgage was recorded on the tenth day of May, 1907, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Crawford County, Michigan, in Liber H of mortgages on page 464, which mortgage was assigned by said Sarah E. Bechraft to Walmer Jorgenson, by assignment in writing bearing date, May 31st, 1907, and recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for Crawford County in Liber G of assignment of mortgages on page 503.

Assignee of said mortgage does hereby elect and declare the principal sum and all arrearage thereon as now due, and there is now due at this date on said mortgage six hundred and fifty-five \$3100 dollars for principal and interest.

The mortgaged premises are situated in the village of Grayling, in the County of Crawford and State of Michigan, as described as follows: wit: Lot number eleven of block nine, of the original plat of the Village of Grayling, as recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for Crawford County, Michigan, together with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto.

This land will be sold at the front door of the Court House in the Village of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, on Friday the fifth day of March, 1908, at twelve o'clock noon, local time, to satisfy the amount due on said mortgage, costs and expenses of said sale and the attorney fee provided for in mortgage and by law.

Dated, November the twenty-third, 1908.

WALMER JORGENSEN,
of Grayling, Michigan.
Assignee of Mortgage.
J. O. CUNNINGHAM,
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgages.
Nov 26-18

THE GREATEST CURE FOR COUGHS AND COLDS DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY

GUARANTEED CURE FOR

Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, La Grippe, Quinsy, Meningitis, Hemorrhage of the Lungs, Weakness of the Lungs, Asthma and

of Diseases of

THROAT, LUNGS AND CHEST

PREVENTS PNEUMONIA

Eleven years ago Dr. King's New Discovery permanently cured me of a severe and dangerous throat and lung trouble, and I've been well ever since.—G. S. Ford, Merchant, Detroit, Mich.

For further information apply to
A. M. LEWIS & CO., DRUG STORE,
Opposite Central Hotel.

Crawford Avalanche.

GRAYLING, THURSDAY, DEC. 31

Local and Neighbored News.

Take Notice.

The date following your address on this paper shows to what time your subscription is paid. Our terms are \$1.50 per year IN ADVANCE. If your time is up, please renew promptly. A X following your name means we want our money.

All advertisements, communications, correspondences, etc., must reach us by Tuesday noon, and cannot be considered later.

School will open next Monday.

For Clean coal go to Bates.

Gotta Kraus is home from the M. A. C., for the holiday vacation.

Have your jewelry engraving done at Hathaway's.

The Forest Echoes will surprise you at the Band concert, New Year's Eve.

House for Rent, near the McKay house. Enquire at this office.

Be sure to send your order for fresh fish to H. Petersen's store.

Don't forget the Band concert New Year's Eve, at the Opera House.

P. L. Brown has begun work on the new sewer in the east part of the village.

Buy your cut glass and silver at Hathaway's.

Wanted—A few family washings by Mrs. Bennett, south side of the river.

Thorwald Peterson will please you with another of his cornet solos at the Band concert.

Members of the W. R. C. are requested to be present at 2:30 January 9, 1909.

Leave your orders for coal at S. H. Co.'s, store. Prices as low as anybody.

Don't fail to hear the Saxophone Duet at the Band Concert, New Years Eve.

St. Charles Coal, as genuine as any, \$4.50 per ton, delivered. Geo. Langevin.

S. H. Co. will fill your coal bin, if you leave your order at their store. It will pay you to order now.

Bates can show you more grades of soft coal than all other dealers combined. Come and see.

For Sale—A seven room house and lot, also a baby cutter and cab. Inquire of Mrs. L. D. Tower.

Simpson is the cheapest place to buy groceries and dry goods for cash. Come and get prices.

Proverb Judge Batterson passed his 66th birthday last Monday, as young as most men at 50.

Don't fail to hear Miss Anna Mellstrap, at the Band concert at the Opera House, New Year's Eve.

St. Charles coal, as genuine as any, \$4.50 per ton, delivered. Geo. Langevin.

For first-class lunches at reasonable prices go to Collen's Restaurant. Opposite S. H. Co's store.

St. Charles coal, as genuine as any, \$4.50 per ton, delivered. Geo. Langevin.

Arthur Fournier is enjoying a ten days vacation from the U. of M. visiting home and friends here.

Cold weather will soon be here and if you need any coal for winter, it will pay you to leave your order with S. H. Co.

Subscriptions taken for the Youths Companion, the greatest publication in the world for our young people. \$1.75 per year.

A first class work team, good drivers, with harness and wagon for sale, at least value. Enquire at AVAILANCHE office.

H. Petersen will again have a supply of fresh Codfish, Flounder, Eel and Halibut this week.

For sewing machines, the best in the market, and at the lowest price call at the AVAILANCHE office.

The Ladies' Union will hold their regular meeting January 8th, instead of January 1st, at the home of Mrs. Fleming.

The W. R. C. extends an invitation to the Soldiers and their wives to attend our installation Jan. 9, 1909, at 3 p. m.

Don't fail to hear Geo. Smart play the classical Trombone Solo, "In the Eternal City" at the Opera House Thursday eve.

Don't forget to come to the Band Concert at the Opera House Thursday eve and help support your own Band which we all know you are proud of.

Dr. S. N. Insley with his brother from N. W. Canada went to the old home near Toronto, Can., for a visit at the old home, last week.

The genuine St. Charles Coal is the brightest and best for sale only by H. Bates. "This is not the just and good" or the genuine as only, but is the genuine article. Call and see the difference.

The week of prayer will be observed in the Presbyterian church auditorium every evening next week beginning Monday evening. Rev. W. L. Hood of Alma will be present to assist the pastor. A most cordial invitation is extended to everyone interested in the prosperity of the church and all others who may so desire to attend these services.

The January meeting of the Board of Supervisors will convene on Monday.

Fred Slight and family came down from Johannesburg for a Christmas visit at the old home.

Clyde Hum, Will and Ed, Nolan, and Dolphus Charron all came home from their work at Lansing for a holiday vacation.

The P. O. force earned their money last week and this in handling of packages which went and came through the mails.

Our business men report a satisfactory holiday trade in all departments, and say there was no sign of hard times in Grayling.

James Ballard, who is employed in the office of Robert Smith Printing Company, in Lansing, came home for his turkey, with his mother and sister.

Frank Canfield spent a Christmas hour with his Uncle, Aunt and Cousins, the family of C. T. Jerome, between trains, returning to West Branch, to eat with his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Dingle of Houghton and Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Trumper of Bay City were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Chamberlain during the holidays.

Mrs. Altha McIntyre is home for a few days from her school in the U. P. She shows the effect of severe illness, but says she will not have any more of it, which is pleasant news.

The mercury touched zero Tuesday morning at daylight and at sundown was 32° above, reaching 35° in the night with high wind and a good shower. Rather a sharp change.

Charles Cowell and his wife and boy came from Chicago this week for a few days visit. They would not have come at this time, but the boy had to see "Grandma".

Almost a fire in the rear of Sorenson's store Christmas eve. Some papers and waste in a barrel in the yard was in some mysterious way ignited, but discovered and extinguished without damage.

Mr. Kerr's driver got friskey Tuesday and spilled him into the snow, took a lively run around town, leaving the cutter at the old Grayling House corner. No great damage, but considerable excitement.

Rev. E. G. Johnson left this morning for a visit with friends in Detroit and Petrolia, Ont., and will return the latter part of next week. There will be no preaching service in the M. E. church Sunday, Jan. 3rd.

Dedication of the new Danish hall takes place Wednesday evening, Jan. 6th. Rev. Kildegaard of Muskegon and Rev. Nebelmeier are expected to be here on the occasion. All Scandinavians are cordially invited to be present.

Rev. A. R. Mitchell of West Branch is expected to be in Grayling on the 6th of January to hold Episcopal services in the G. A. R. Hall at 7:30 p. m. All are cordially invited and especially those who are thinking of being confirmed.

All business was closed in Grayling for the Christmas celebration, and everybody seemed enjoyed the great Holiday, as seldom before. For several days preceding, the incoming trains seemed to unload here, leaving with the cars almost vacated. All the churches had pleasant entertainments preceding, and nearly every house was crowded with home comers and friends.

There was a joyful reunion and family visit at the New Russel Hotel last week. The home coming of the boys brought the entire family together. Mr. and Mrs. Charron, their daughter and six sons, who occupied a table by themselves during their stay. They had a photo taken of the entire group which will be highly prized in the years to come.

A very pretty wedding was solemnized Monday evening of this week, the contracting parties being our Supt. of Schools, J. E. Bradley and Miss Edith M. Chamberlain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Chamberlain. Rev. Humphrey Fleming officiated. After the service the company sat down to an elegant banquet. Owing to the recent death of Mr. Bradley's father the service was a very quiet affair, there being no other guests than the near relatives. The happy couple left for Detroit Tuesday for a few days visit with Mr. Bradley's relatives. Their many friends here and elsewhere wish them all kinds of happiness and prosperity. Come.

The marriage of Miss Laura L. Lewis to Roy R. Cline, a prominent jeweler of Rose City, Mich., was solemnized by the Rev. Edward Dynes of Rose City, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Lewis, in Frederic Dec. 26 at 8 o'clock, p. m. They were attended by Miss Rose Lewis, sister of the bride as bridesmaid and Mr. Harry Buck, groomsman. The bride wore a gown of white Mousseline silk, trimmed Irish Point lace and carried a bouquet of Bride Roses. The floral decorations were Roses, Carnations and Smilax. After the ceremony abundant repast was served, and the happy couple left immediately for a wedding trip to the south. Mr. and Mrs. Cline will be at home after Jan. 10th at Rose City. Mrs. Cline has always lived at Frederic and by her sunny disposition has endeared herself to her many friends who join in hearty congratulations and best wishes for their future happiness and prosperity.

The week of prayer will be observed in the Presbyterian church auditorium every evening next week beginning Monday evening. Rev. W. L. Hood of Alma will be present to assist the pastor. A most cordial invitation is extended to everyone interested in the prosperity of the church and all others who may so desire to attend these services.

The genuine St. Charles Coal is the brightest and best for sale only by H. Bates. "This is not the just and good" or the genuine as only, but is the genuine article. Call and see the difference.

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CHRISTMAS AT M. P. CHURCH.

The annual Christmas Tree and entertainment was held at the M. P. Church on Thursday evening last. The program given below was fully carried out, and a short address delivered by Rev. Fleming, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. The church was decorated for the occasion. A Christmas tree, covered with gifts for the children, added much to its beauty. Santa Claus assisted in the distribution of the presents to those present. The attendance was large, every available space being taken. All went home pleased with the entertainment.

PROGRAM.

Opening Chorus.....School Prayer, Lord's Prayer.....Greeting Song.....Primary Class Address of Welcome.....F. Jennings Merry Christmas.....Gladys Deckett Everybody's Christmas.....Eula Stillwell A Real Grandma.....Gerald Blaine Dollies Turn.....Edith Clark Recitation.....Elsie Love Song—Away in a Manger.....Ruby Jennings, Florence Regan Recitation—Love.....Marie Jansen The Best of All.....Thomas Regan Santa Claus gets Ready.....Bretina Bennett Recitation.....Henry Love Song—Silent Night.....When Christmas Comes.....Ethel Clark Christmas Box.....Five Girls Christmas Stockings.....Edna Corrige Watching for Santa Claus.....Blanche Beckett Closing Song.....

CHRISTMAS AT M. E. CHURCH.

The annual Christmas Tree and entertainment was held in the M. E. Church last Thursday evening. The program given below was fully carried out. The church was prettily decorated. A large Christmas Tree added to its beauty. The attendance was as large as room would allow and all went home pleased.

PROGRAM.

Song.....School Prayer.....Pastor Welcome.....Myrtle Wilson Recitation.....Russel Eastman Recitation.....Harry Pearson Recitation.....Edison Tower Solo.....Anna Mellstrap Recitation, A Real Grandma.....Arthur Wakely Recitation.....Ava McLeod Recitation.....Bertha Bates Recitation, Playing Santa Claus.....Emerson Bates Song.....School Recitation.....Gladys Everett Recitation.....Rene Bates Recitation, No Room at the end.....Florence Gregory Solo, Hurry Little Snow Flakes.....Alfred Johnson Recitation.....Charlotte Flagg Recitation.....Norman Winslow Recitation.....Clarence Abbott Recitation—Christmas Story.....Willie Wingard Duel—Lonely Stockings.....Edna Winslow and cornelia Mellstrap Recitation.....Helen Winslow Recitation.....Frank Tomlinson Recitation.....Margaret Burgess Recitation.....Cora Howard Recitation.....Edna Dupree Recitation.....Carlton Mellstrap Recitation, Joe's Christmas Angel.....Vera Crandall Recitation.....Verna Biggs Recitation.....Kenneth Crandall Song.....Primary Class Recitation, That's Just Me.....Elgin Narren Recitation.....Beasie Fairbotham Recitation.....Juez Billings Recitation.....Ruby Oaks Exercise, Three Modern Men.....Three Boys Recitation, Legend of the Christmas Tree.....Francesia Wingard Recitation.....Meho Corwin Recitation.....Elden Winslow Song.....School Goodnight.....Nine Girls Recitation, Looking for Santa Claus, Howard Richardson, Austin Narfen.

M. E. CHURCH.

Sunday, Jan. 3, 1909.

There will be no preaching service on the above date, as the pastor is out of town. Other services will be at the usual hours.

Sabbath School at 11:45 a. m. Epworth League at 6:00 p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday at 7 p. m.

You are cordially invited to participate in all the religious and social functions of our church.

E. G. JOHNSON, Pastor.

M. P. CHURCH.

(SOUTH SIDE) Sunday, Jan. 3, 1909.

Preaching service at 10:30 a. m. Sabbath School 11:30 a. m. Junior League at 3 p. m.

Preaching service at 7 p. m.

Prayer meeting Wednesday, at 7 p. m.

All are cordially invited to attend these services.

R. H. CUNNINGHAM, Pastor.

Presbyterian Church.

Sunday, Jan. 3, 1909.

Preaching service at 10:30 a. m.

Subject: "The transforming Power of the Rejected Christ."

Sabbath School at 12 m. A. B. Failing, Supt.

Christian Endeavor at 6 p. m. Topic "Duty of making good Resolutions."

Preaching service at 7 p. m. Subject "The Manliness of Christ, or an Appeal for a Manly Christianity."

Prayer meeting Thursday evening at the home of the Pastor.

All are cordially invited to attend these services.

J. HUMPHREY FLEMING, Pastor.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

This is our last call in 1908, and we desire to thank all our customers for the favors of their patronage and we trust our Business relation will continue mutually satisfactory in the future as in the past.

We extend to all, our wishes for a very

Happy New Year
Grayling Mercantile Co.,
"The Quality Store."

Sorenson's Furniture Store.

Drugs.

Patent Medicines.

Central Drug Store

N. ROLSON PROPRIETOR

"The Best Drugs."

Hints for Holiday Buyers

Call at our store—see the pretty things and note the low prices on Manicure Sets, Military Sets, Music Rolls, Brush and Comb Sets, Toilet Sets, Mirrors, Cigar Cases, Hand Bags, Atomizers, Jewel Boxes, Toilet Water, Xmas

PRESIDENT OF FRANCE ATTACKED IN STREET

SUMMARY OF THE MORNING'S MOST IMPORTANT NEWS.

Sunday.—Records of the previous week disprove the legend that "a green Christmas makes a fat graveyard," and the record of the year shows extremely low mortality.

Confirmation of the appointment of Bishop D. J. O'Connell, rector of the Catholic University at Washington, as auxiliary bishop of San Francisco has been received from Rome.

Canada and Mexico have been invited by President Roosevelt to take part in a conference on the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held in the White House Feb. 18.

Monday.

A. B. Stickney resigned as receiver of Chicago Great Western.

Seven councilmen, president and cashier of a bank were arrested on charges of graft at Pittsburg.

A former night rider, in evidence at Union City, Tenn., against men accused of the Barker murder, told all the secrets of the organization and named the chief actors in tragedies.

Vice President Gomez of Venezuela, to whom Castro turned over all affairs, has established a new government supplementing all the members of the old cabinet with men satisfactory to the people.

Under suspicion of teaching free love, and "admission and perfect union," the "Order of the Fifteen," a student organization, is being investigated by the officials of the University of Pennsylvania.

Tuesday.

W. H. Newman, president of the New York Central lines, resigned after forty years of active railroad work.

The Herald Square theater in New York was destroyed by fire which started just before the close of the performance.

Wall street heard that Andrew Carnegie is back in the steel business and is furnishing the money for Schwab's Bethlehem works.

Federal rebate inquiry of Chicago packers started as thirty employees of Morris & Co. were summoned to go before the grand jury.

Acting President Gomez of Venezuela practically broke Castro's rule forever when he personally arrested the president's brother and others.

Wednesday.

According to testimony at the hearing of the alleged grafters, 88 Pittsburgh councilmen accepted bribes for votes.

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison were sentenced to imprisonment in jail for conspiracy in Buck stove boycott case.

Venezuela suspended the shipping order that caused the trouble with Holland and the Dutch government ordered its warships to cease operations along the Venezuelan coast.

Missouri Supreme Court ousted the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, Republic Oil Company of Ohio and Waters-Pierce Company from the Commonwealth and ordered each to pay a fine of \$50,000.

Thursday.

Pittsburgh bankers are said to have paid \$170,000 in bribes to aldermen to secure city deposits.

The New York Stock Exchange suspended W. H. Martin and T. W. Moorehead for three years.

The St. Paul railroad has found that its Montana mines yield good coal and will save \$1,000,000 a year on fuel.

Cyrus R. Teed, who as "Korek I." rent Chicago in the early '90s, is dead in Florida, where his followers are expecting his resurrection.

Bishop O'Connell will retire as head of the Catholic University at Washington and may become conductor at Baltimore with rights of succession to Gibbons.

Friday.

"Charley" Gates, son of John W. Gates, dropped nearly \$25,000 in betting on Los Angeles races.

A man attacked President Fallières in a street of Paris and tried to pull his beard.

The steamer Pretoria arrived in New York after a terrible struggle with the weather, which made the big liner take more than twice her regular time.

Miss Mary A. Hardy, a patient in St. Mary's hospital in Racine, Wis., was crushed to death when a nurse pulled the cable, suddenly raising the elevator.

More than three hundred moving-picture men in New York protested against Mayor McClellan's action in revoking their licenses and shutting off the holiday trade.

Saturday.

Claus Spreckels, "sugar king of the Pacific coast," died.

H. W. Poor & Co., big New York stock brokerage firm, assigned, with liabilities of over \$5,000,000.

The Venezuela revolution is complete without the shedding of blood; suits have been filed to secure Castro's property.

Miss Katherine Elkins, wounded in her heart by the breaking of her engagement to the Duke of Abruzzi, will become a trained nurse and soon is to enter course of education.

President Roosevelt, in a reply to appeals in the Gompers case, said he could not pardon the labor leaders while the case was before the courts, but stated that the sentence might be given attention if the appeal was dropped.

NOTES OF CURRENT EVENTS.

The Chattanooga chamber of commerce adopted resolutions requesting President-elect Taft to reappoint Secretary Wright of the War Department.

Vestments and furnishings of the sacristy in the Church of St. Dominic, San Francisco, were damaged to the extent of \$1,000 by some unknown person.

Fire at Enterprise, W. Va., destroyed the tipples, slack bins, boiler house, and other buildings of Fairmont Coal Company. The loss is estimated at \$75,000.

It is reported at Rome that a farewell cable message sent by the Duke of Abruzzi to Miss Katherine Elkins concluded with the words: "I will remember you forever."

A man in evening clothes and with a "jimmy" in his pocket was arrested at Newark, N. J., while picking a lock at the home of Foster State, a New York engineer.

Francis Donohue, a laborer who performed in ringing the doorbell of Mayor Stevenson of New York in an attempt to get him arrested for disorderly conduct. He said he wanted to defend the Mayor against plotting enemies.

ROYALIST PLOT IS SCENTED.

INSULT GENERALLY BELIEVED TO BE ACT OF VAINGLORIOUS SEEKER AFTER NOTORIETY.

While Armand Fallières, the President of France, accompanied by M. Ramondou, his secretary, and Colonel Lasson, military attaché at the Elysée palace, was taking a morning stroll near the Rue de l'Étoile in Paris, a poorly clad individual, who evidently had been lying in wait, suddenly jumped upon the President from behind and threw his arms about M. Fallières' neck in an effort to seize his beard. Colonel Lasson and Secretary Ramondou sprang to the assistance of the President, dragged off his assailant and turned him over to two special detectives who had been following the party on bicycles. President Fallières' canary was broken in the struggle, but beyond a scratch on the ear he was not injured and insisted on continuing his walk.

As the detectives slipped the handcuffs on the man he cried: "I am unarmed. I simply wanted to pull the President's beard." At the station house the President's assailant proved to be Jean Matis, a cafe waiter, 24 years old and a native of the department of Savoie. Medals of General

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PLAY BAD, AUDIENCE DANCES.

Actors Refused Hearing, Said on Stage While Waitress Reigned.

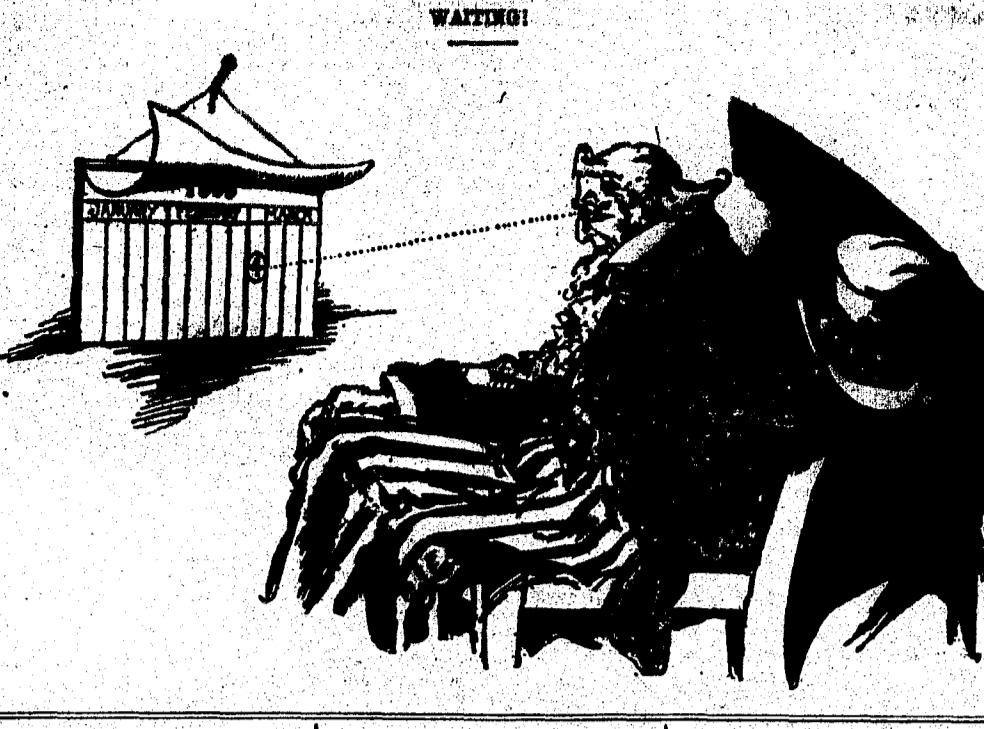
When a company of actors was presenting "The Peacock's Parade" in the town hall at Aurora, Ohio, the other night, the audience demanded the price of admission back after the first act.

The door of the auditorium then was cleared and a dance held. The cross-dressed actors watched the dancers from seats on the stage. For the benefit of the actors and audience many were placards with the word "Sting." Similar cards were placed in all the shop windows of the village.

Elbert Hubbard Injured.

A falling tree seriously injured Elbert Hubbard, the author and lecturer, in the woods near his colony at East Aurora, N. Y. While assisting workmen he mis-calculated the direction that the tree would fall and was crushed.

Waiting!



FIRE IN NEW YORK THEATER.

Herald Square Playhouse Burns Shortly After Audience Leaves.

Just after the curtain went down on the last act of "The Three Twins" at the Herald Square Theater in New York Tuesday night smoke began pouring from the wall back of the first balcony. There was a cry of "Fire" and a confused rush for the exit doors by about 200 men and women left in the house, who were standing in front of their seats arranging wraps and coats. They all got out safely, but not a moment too soon, for about three minutes after the alarm flames burst through the wall back of the balcony seats. In ten minutes more the whole rear part of the theater, from orchestra to gallery, was ablaze.

At midnight the fire was about under control, but the theater was practically gutted. All the auditorium parts were gone, and the flames had penetrated into the section back of the stage. The girl members of the company were the last to leave the place. Some of them fled to Broadway and to 35th street in their costumes and ran into adjoining buildings. Beside McCoy, the star, fainted on the stage when she saw the flames break through the balcony wall. She drew a small revolver from her pocket and shot him four times. She was arrested, but expressed no regret.

Had the fire burst through into the balcony ten minutes sooner or even five minutes, there might have been terrible loss of life. But most of the audience of 1,000 or so of men and women were out of the theater or in the lobby leading to Broadway when the cry of "fire" arose.

Lee Shubert, one of the lessees of the Herald Square Theater, said that the damage was about \$30,000 to the building and \$10,000 to the interior. The property and scenery of "The Three Twins" were not injured.

MISSOURI OUSTS OIL TRUST.

Standard of Indiana, Republic and Waters-Pierce Fired \$50,000 Each.

Declaring that the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, the Republic Oil Company of Ohio and the Waters-Pierce Oil Company of Missouri had combined to monopolize the oil business in the State, the Supreme Court of Missouri has issued a decree ousting all three from the Commonwealth and fining them \$50,000 each.

The investigation reveals the fact that Matis was in close relation with the Royalist organization, and this gives color to rumors that he was the instrument of a Royalist plot. Serious evidence in this direction, however, is lacking up to the present time, and it is more likely that he is only a crack-brained individual seeking notoriety.

ROBBERS SAVE VICTIMS' LIVES.

Write Note Warning Friends of Convict Tied Up to Bed.

After being tied to their beds for fifteen hours by robbers, William Jones and his aged housekeeper, Mrs. Anna Williams, who live in a little farm house three miles from the hamlet of Xostville, Pa., were discovered and released. They might have starved or frozen to death had not the robbers tied a note to the door of F. C. Wood's blacksmith shop, reading: "Go to William Jones. He is tied in bed and has been robbed by burglars. Don't forget. This is proof." The proof was Jones' gold watch strung by its chain to the knob of the door.

Alfredo De Oro of Cuba is the three-cushion billiard champion of the world, having won the third block of the match with Thomas A. Huston of St. Louis by the score of 30 to 38. The final score for the three-block game is De Oro 150, Huston 107.

The decision, which was unanimous on the part of the seven judges, and was written by Judge Woodson, is so sweeping that Attorney General Hadley and Governor Folk hail it as the end of illegal commercial combinations in Missouri, and the former asserts that, in conjunction with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the tobacco trust case, it will affect similar suits in other States.

The Australian tennis players won the Davis international cup, finally defeating Messrs. Wright and Alexander, the American contestants.

Myron Curtis, who has coached the Carlton football team for the past two seasons, has resigned his position and will return East and go into business.

Harry Stover, manager of the track at Butte, Mont., says he has advised to the effect that there will be no legislation against racing in that State this winter.

At Frankfort, Ky., Justice Lansing, in the Court of Appeals, rendered a decision giving horsemen a sweeping victory, holding that betting or wagering on a horse race is not gambling and cannot be construed as a felony.

Tom Driscoll, claiming to be featherweight champion of England, knocked out Charley Griffin, featherweight champion of Australia, in the eleventh round of a bout which proved the best boxing exhibition seen in Boston in many years.

No football game will be played between Iowa and Minnesota next fall and negotiations have been practically ended, as the Gophers insist that the game be played at Minneapolis and Iowa insists that it be played at Iowa City or not at all.

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Michigan State News

FRANCHISE SECURED.

Chicago-Grand Rapids Road Secures City Right of Way.

At a special meeting of the City Council of South Haven, a franchise was granted to the Chicago, Benton Harbor and Grand Rapids Railroad Co. for the building of an electric railroad through that city. Three trustees are the grantees of the traction franchise—Joseph W. Homer, William E. Dodson and George E. Hannaford, all of Chicago. When completed this road will start at Benton Harbor, pass through South Haven and make connections at Saugatuck with the Grand Rapids-Holland line. The franchise calls for work to be completed in two years. The power plant for running cars is to be located in South Haven, as well as the main office. Right of way has been secured on most of the route and work will likely start in the spring.

BIG TIMBER LAND PURCHASE.

Brunswick-Balke Co. Buys 12,000 Acres of Hardwood.

At a meeting held in Kalamazoo in the Kalamazoo National Bank building, the Big Bay Lumber Company, a corporation represented almost entirely by Kalamazoo capital, sold to the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company of Chicago 12,000 acres of hardwood timber land located in Marquette county on the upper peninsula. The land is considered one of the most valuable tracts in the state, because of the high quality of the timber that covers it. The timber consists of oak, maple, and walnut, all of exceptional quality and size. It is stated that after the land has been cleared of the timber the purchasers will get good value for it, as the soil is black loam and clay, the best for farming purposes.

PAY BIG INHERITANCE TAX.

Estate of Wealthy Grand Rapids Men swell County Funds.

In no other year in Kent county's history has so large a portion of inheritance tax been paid. Many of Grand Rapids' oldest and wealthiest residents have died within the year. Thirty of the big estates, not including the Delos Blodgett estate, not yet inventoried total up \$3,430,000. The largest is the J. M. Barnett estate, which paid an inheritance tax on \$430,000. There are ten more over the \$100,000 mark. It is estimated that the Blodgett estate will total between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000. Final accounts have not been rendered in all the estates, so it is impossible to tell the total tax yet.

DUFFY IS SET FREE.

Unexpected End of Infanticide Case in Saginaw Court.

The trial of Joseph Duffy, charged with the murder of Myrtle Lennon's baby, which had been in progress in the Circuit Court in Saginaw for two weeks, came to a sudden and sensational end with the discharge of the prisoner. In a formal statement to the court, Prosecuting Attorney Purcell asked to have the case dismissed because of the discrepancy between letters which Miss Lennon admitted on the stand she wrote to Duffy and her own testimony. Judge Gage, after hearing the recommendation of the prosecutor, immediately discharged Duffy and entered an order that the case be nolle prossed.

DROWNS IN PARK LAKE.

Five-Year-Old Ypsilanti Boy Breaks Through Ice.

While playing with his sled in Prospect Park, Ypsilanti, with other children, Ralph, 5-year-old son of Edwin Wier, slid too far out on the little park lake and broke through the thin ice and sank. Two other children, James Pearl and his 3-year-old sister, also broke through the ice, but the lad pulled his sister out and saved himself. The Wier boy was not missed at once, but later his cap was found floating on the water. Mrs. Wier was informed, and she saw her boy's hand in the hole and swooned. The little body was soon recovered.

BEATS 100 ON OLD GAME.

Coal Swindle Is Worked Successfully at Kalamazoo.

In their greed to get a winter's supply of coal at half the cost at the regular coal yards, more than a hundred Kalamazoo people became victims of a swindler and the latter is more than \$300 to the good as the result of a day's work. The swindler went from home to home and said he was out at the request of the civic organization to see that everybody had plenty of coal and those who could not pay full price should have it at a reduced rate. He collected the money and disappeared.

DAYLIGHT ROBBER BOLD.

Highwayman Attempts to Hold Up Farmer in Upper Michigan.

Edward Johnson, a dairyman and farmer residing east of Houghton, was lured up by a masked highwayman about a mile from there while en route to town at 8 o'clock in the morning, the footpad taking a revolver and demanding his cash. Johnson whipped up his horses, whereat the holdup man fired two shots at him, one passing through his overcoat and the other grazing his chin. The man escaped.

BOY HURT BY EXPLOSION.

Distilling Plant of Kalamazoo Laundry Partially Wrecked.

Nine-year-old Frank Murtry was dangerously burned and the distilling plant of the Kalamazoo laundry in Kalamazoo was partly wrecked when an explosion took place. The cement walls of the building were blown out, but the machinery was not badly damaged. What caused the explosion is unknown, no one being around but the boy. It is not believed the youth is fatally injured.

TEACHER WILL RECOVER.

Principal, Strangled by Pupils, Soon to Return to School.

Roy Perry, the principal of the Grand Blanc schools who was strangled by one of his pupils, is improving. His legal complications set in Perry expects to be able to return to his duties soon. It has developed that there has been trouble between Perry and some of the pupils for some time and several of the older boys conspired to drive the principal from the school. The school board decided to let the master rest with the principal. Perry has not decided what steps will be taken.

HUSBAND WISHES TO SUICIDE.

Young Women, Wealthy and Apparently Happy, End Own Lives.

Sitting up in bed, with her husband looking at her, Mrs. Myrtle Scarles of Grand Rapids sent bullet from an automatic revolver through her heart, dying instantly. Scarles had arisen about 2 o'clock, unable to sleep, and was smoking when he heard his wife stirring. He turned around just as she said: "Well, Jim, how do you like the looks of this?" And then before he could move fired the fatal bullet. Temporary insanity is the only excuse that can be advanced for her act. She was only 32 years old, cultured, a fine housewife, was the mother of two beautiful children, and, besides being the wife of a wealthy man, had considerable money in her own right. Scarles is mining promoter and is worth about \$250,000, with large interests in Cobalt, Nevada and Arizona.

TWO CHILDREN DIE IN FLAMES.

Typhoid Patient with Only Night Clothes Seas Little Ones Perish.

Neighbors who had been at an entertainment at 11 o'clock on a recent night rushed out at the cry of fire to find the home of Edward Tuer in Intellochon, in flames. Tuer, suffering from typhoid fever, clad only in night clothes, standing barefoot in the snow to his knees, was vainly trying to break a pane of glass in the window of the room where two of his children were being consumed. Assistance came too late and the charred bodies of the children, Mary, aged 5, and Lyman, aged 3, were found after the fire burned itself out. The wife and baby narrowly escaped.

INSANITY IN STATE GAINS.

Hundred More in Kalamazoo Asylum Than Last Year.

Again the records at the Michigan asylum in Kalamazoo have been broken. Superintendent T. A. Nodle giving out a report which showed that the number being cared for at that institution numbers 1,836, just 1,000 of this number being men. This is nearly 100 more than were in the asylum one year ago. Another noticeable feature of the report is in the average of patients that are admitted. During this year, the average age of inmates has been increased from 40 years to 46.

May Reprint "Michigan in War."

There remains in the hands of the adjutant general of the state but one copy of that celebrated military work, "Michigan in the War." There is still a great demand for this book from Civil War soldiers and it is likely it may be revised and reprinted.

AMONG OUR NEIGHBORS.

There is considerable talk of starting another bank in Marne City.

Mrs. Lucy C. Parker was badly injured while picking up coal along the tracks of the G. R. & I., in Kalamazoo. A switch engine struck the woman, throwing her to the side of the track.

William Shoemaker's general store in Orion was broken into and a quantity of meat and groceries stolen. Deputy Calvert of Pontiac arrested Charles Miller and Louis Willis on suspicion.

George Kidder of Albia was struck in the right eye with a twig while in the woods, a companion who was walking ahead having allowed a branch to fly back. The lid and eyeball were penetrated.

What stipend does Mammon offer and what is the security?

The collateral is uncertain and the end slavery, not freedom, and servitude the vilest. Is there a human being so prone as the slave of wealth, and of all that it inspires and procures in the way of pleasure and crime? What does it not do against sense and brain and heart, bringing disease and madness and cruelty?

What remuneration does it even promise to render after death? God's hire is exceeding great—here freedom and not chains; hereafter a compensation which eye hath not seen nor ear heard, nor mind conceived. With this master no panic, no failure, no bankruptcy. He will not leave His servant naked to his enemies. Surely God is a better master than Mammon.

CHRISTMAS AND HOME.

By Henry E. Cope.

"And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger."—Luke 2: 16.

A new day dawned for our world when the center of religion passed from a temple to a home, from the awesome priest, as a leader, to the little child. Then religion came nearer to us, became of our hearts and our own bosoms, a real part of our daily lives, bound with our purest pleasures, as common as household thoughts and as sweet.

Since the birth of a child marked a new era in the spiritual history of the race, every birth had a new significance. We have come to realize that each child is born not so much into a world of sin and sorrow as into the family of the Father of us all and into the right to love, and peace and joy, into a world of growing good will.

Christmas tide serves to remind us how the best in all the religious aspirations of men everywhere cluster about the things most simple.

The stories we retail at this season are not about heroes and kings, not of magnificent and impressive ceremonies in vast temples; they are of a village mother and her new born babe, of a lowly dwelling, and of humble shepherds.

Oscar Svenson ended his life by taking carbolic acid. His act is attributed to despondency and failing health. He moved upon a farm, one mile east of Lowell last winter, from Joliet, Ill. He leaves a widow and four children.

The steamer Theodore II, Wickwire, which will belong to the fleet managed by Boland & Cornelius of Buffalo, was successfully launched at the Ecorse yard of the Great Lakes Engineering Works. The new vessel is 444 feet long. Miss Cornelius of Buffalo, sister of Adam Cornelius and Boland & Cornelius, was sponsor.

Stumbling on a stake while standing on a small platform which inclined downward toward a rapidly revolving saw, Layman Hamblin, employed in a sawmill at Antwerp, managed to stop himself with his head only a few inches from the saw. In falling, the tendons of his ankles were lacerated.

Jonathan Lodge, aged 10, who recently returned from the State insane asylum at Newberry, committed suicide by hanging in his daughter's home in Laurium. He was worth considerable money at one time, but lost everything through speculation. Two sons recently opened a western saloon, which they sold for \$300,000.

TEACHER WILL RECOVER.

Principal, Strangled by Pupils, Soon to Return to School.

Roy Perry, the principal of the Grand Blanc schools who was strangled by one of his pupils, is improving. His legal complications set in Perry expects to be able to return to his duties soon. It has developed that there has been trouble between Perry and some of the pupils for some time and several of the older boys conspired to drive the principal from the school. The school board decided to let the master rest with the principal. Perry has not decided what steps will be taken.



WHO IS YOUR MASTER?

By Rev. F. P. A. Halpin.

You cannot serve God and Mammon.

Matt. vi. 24.

Christian ethics is logical, comprehensive and immutable. Like its founder, it is simple and unequivocal as well.

Theoretically, it appeals to reason and experience.

Practically, it is uplifting and calls out what is best in highest manhood.

It is for heroes and not for weaklings.

That no man can serve God and Mammon is an irrefutable inference from the larger principle that no man can serve two masters.

It implies that man must have a master, that there are two masters—God and Mammon—and that he cannot serve both. It divides the race into three classes.

There are those who serve God, those who serve Mammon and those who endeavor to serve both God and Mammon.

It is to these last that this particular utterance is made.

The first Christ embraces as His brethren. For the last His scorn is almost as boundless as His mercy. They are numerous, these wastrels of humanity. What their number God alone knows. In the blindness which seems their curse they act as if they could hoodwink God. Christ confronts them with a dilemma which they cannot escape. Both masters they cannot serve, so they must come from under cover and declare themselves. All that is left for them to do is to give up one or the other master. Let them advance to the open and flagrant concealment to the winds. Away with compromise! Away with cowardice! Away with hypocrisy! This is their best, their only chance of regeneration.

Nothing will ever come from duplicity save dishonor and ruin. The soldier who rudely smote Christ on the cheek did not inflict a tinge of the agony which followed the kiss of Judas. Compromisers are Judases, every one of them; and the malediction of their prototype is on them all. Living, they are traitors to both masters. Dying, they confound and betray themselves. Living honestly is better than truckling, and even the honor that is found among thieves is honor of a kind, whereas knavery is always degradation. While angry with your brother the sacrifice you place upon the altar is insult, and the widow's mite counts more with God than the mammoth bequests to church and to charity extended by hands tainted by the oppression of the laborer and the orphan.

Let, then, every man unmask. Who is to be the master? God or Mammon?

Let each one be mercenary and adhere to the employer who gives the bigger, the better wages.

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DAYLIGHT ROBBER BOLD.

Highwayman Attempts to Hold Up Farmer in Upper Michigan.

Edward Johnson, a dairyman and farmer residing east of Houghton, was lured up by a masked highwayman about a mile from there while en route to town at 8 o'clock in the morning, the footpad taking a revolver and demanding his cash.

Johnson whipped up his horses, whereat the holdup man fired two shots at him, one passing through his overcoat and the other grazing his chin. The man escaped.

BOY HURT BY EXPLOSION.

Distilling Plant of Kalamazoo Laundry Partially Wrecked.

Nine-year-old Frank Murtry was dangerously burned and the distilling plant of the Kalamazoo laundry in Kalamazoo was partly wrecked when an explosion took place. The cement walls of the building were blown out, but the machinery was not badly damaged. What caused the explosion is unknown, no one being around but the boy. It is not believed the youth is fatally injured.

James A. Wells, the mysterious man who confessed forgery, was sentenced in Sault Ste. Marie to from one to fourteen years at the Ionia house of correction, Wells came to the Soo recently, forged a check on a lumber firm and passed it at a clothing store without difficulty. The officers were unable

Buy the New Royal Sewing Machine

Equal to any made.

For Sale and fully warranted by O. Palmer.

LEONARD'S WIFE

By FRANK HUBBURY O'HARA

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There are men who abuse their wives in private and some who mistreat them in public; but Leonard did both in his own peculiar way, until Amy Leonard was sorry that she ever had met him. This is a bad thing for a woman, especially a young woman like Amy Leonard. It is apt to do many strange tricks with her; and when people begin to whisper about her conduct—well, pity the woman, for nine times out of ten she is quite as innocent as you are. Amy Leonard's case was the tenth.

Now, I do not mean to say that there was anything wrong with Mrs. Leonard, not that. But she had come face to face with the inevitable. It was all due to Leonard himself, and his ways. The woman was worth two or three Leonards. She was clever and good-looking. She had gone to Greytown when the canal was promised, and lived with her parents until she met Leonard. Because he was consul, it was said that she married him for position. This was not true. She loved him, and I think he was fond of her.

Bet Leonard soon took to drinking more rum than was good for him; an especially bad thing in the tropics. Then the breach came and widened, and the only link seemed to be the child. When the baby was born, Mrs. Leonard hoped things would be different; but they were not. After this, she began to ride with de Roode over the black sand road a great deal; also to dance much with him on occasion; also, to sit out on the balcony with him, reading her manuscript aloud. Wherefore her case was the tenth.

Had the consul ridden with her, or danced with her, or listened to her stories, Amy Leonard would not have looked twice at de Roode. Wherefore the consul was to blame.

The stories that Mrs. Leonard wrote were passably good, but she never managed to sell one. She was not discouraged by this, but kept at the thing.



With a Low Cry She Stepped Back with Her Hand to Her Forehead.

She needed an avocation—besides de Roode—and for this alone it was well. Her training, however, came in fortunately later on.

The separation occurred when they had been married four years. The consul spoke of de Roode and several others, and said many things which were better left unsaid. Then Amy Leonard laughed sadly and hugged the little one tightly to her. How should Leonard know it was all done to win his old affection? He said much, and she laughed. Also, she said something, the upshot of all being that she was going to leave. Leonard asked if she would not miss de Roode. Then she cried.

And the consul misunderstood.

As the woman stood alone by the rail, watching the low stretch of yellow coastline with its rugged fringes of palms sink steadily into the waters that were broadening between, she felt first sad, then free. It was a new sensation. The land behind her, with its intense skies, and cool palm-groves and lagoons, had meant languor, rest, unhappiness; the spirit of the great city before her was expressed by this infinite waste of waters—freedom, liberty, and—perhaps—peace! The child in the cabin only emphasized the hope.

For a time Amy Leonard felt lost in the swirl of the city. Then she steadied herself for the effort. She secured a position on one of the dailies, where her duties were largely routine and where small chance was offered for originality. But she did not care. She wanted only to live.

Her tiny apartments formed a paradise; but always there was an income deficiency, like a cake without frosting. That was the only simile she could find.

In the far past Amy Leonard had lived for the joy of living; afterward she had lived for love; now she was living always for the sweet little son who made those tiny apartments possible. There was no other center now, which life might revolve. She could have had no other.

The cold was biting. Too long a summer in quiet, hot weather. Winter went, and there

was no tiny face peering at the first flowers in the window box.

Night after night Amy Leonard came home weary at heart and sat alone hour by hour in that little flat where paradise had been. She would sit before a trunk, fondly handling the tiny wardrobe. Night after night and week upon week—but such things are never measured by nights and days and weeks. For many heart-beats she lived there alone, going each morning to her work and coming home each night weary at heart. Then at last the woman laughed sadly, as she had done some time before, and saw the folly of it all.

She never had written to Greytown; she was lost to all her former friends. She was glad of that. Some of them had said things, anyway. Very well.

III.

Years came between, while Greytown saw the hope of canal fade away forever. Then the consul at last was removed, and he came north. He inquired everywhere, but it was all useless. Yet he persisted calmly, somehow determined and even confident that he should win. He felt that he must succeed; he must make things right.

He walked the streets by night. He could scarcely sleep. It never occurred to him that they might have left the city. He felt sure that somewhere in that vast camp of humanity she was waiting.

Finally he found a clew. He hurried to the office of the daily. She had been gone so long that few remembered her. He obtained an old address; and so step by step, in the end he did succeed.

It was twilight. Rain had fallen all day and the street lights blazed back from the pavements. He approached a three-storyed residence in a section once fashionable, long ago. At the curb a carriage was waiting, and as Leonard turned to enter he saw a large man with a florid face peer through the window at him.

He rang nervously. A woman in a long Japanese kimono opened the door. A soft light shone on great masses of auburn hair.

"Mrs. Leonard?" she repeated, staring at him and shaking her head.

Then an idea came to Leonard.

"Amy Carter?" he queried, giving her maiden name almost in a whisper.

"Oh," said the girl in the kimono. "Yes. Come in. She's going out, though, I think. I'll call her."

Leonard sat down on a low divan in the hallway. Presently a soft rustling came through the shadows. The next moment a woman in a delicate gray and heliotrope gown, with a picture hat heavy with plumes and mats of heliotrope, stood before him in the dim light. He rose slowly, trembling and reverent.

"Amy!" he said, softly, more in surprise than speech.

With a low cry she stepped back, one hand to her forehead.

"You—you?" she exclaimed.

He tried to take her hand, but she drew it away.

"I have come for you—dear," he murmured.

"It is too late now," she whispered.

"Can't you forgive me?" he begged.

The woman turned from him.

"I have forgiven you," she said, slowly.

"Then—"

"Don't ask," she demanded, quickly. "I have remembered you always, and I have cherished ideals faithfully; but—"

She paused. Leonard clenched his fist.

"I don't care, dear girl," he cried. "It was my fault—all mine, every bit of it. I love you. Can't you come back to me, Amy? Even if you don't—"

"I do love you," she interrupted, hoarsely. "It isn't that."

Again the man clenched his fist, again muttered:

"Whatever may have happened is my fault. We shall be happy, the three of us—"

"What?" she cried in a long, dry whisper.

"Where is the little one?", said Leonard, tenderly, as he put his arm about her.

Then with a low wail Amy Leonard lay her head upon his breast and wailed long and loud, so that the girl in the kimono, peering over the baulster, wondered much.

The Logical Place.

It was closing time at the town library. Old Mr. Duke, who had filled the post of Librarian for years, took down his coat and hat, and with the assistance of his little daughter, got them safely on. Together they started for the door. It was raining hard.

"Wait a moment, child," said her father, and went back into the building. The girl remained, obediently.

Five minutes passed. Then in. She pushed open the door and walked in. Her father was bent over one of the card catalogues.

"What are you looking for, father?" she inquired.

He put the drawer back, suddenly abashed.

"I'm getting old, Margaret," he said. "I couldn't find my umbrella, and I was searching for it under U in the lists."—*Young's Companion*

Undertaker Gives Warning.

Old David Gurney, undertaker, of New Haven, Indiana, told his wife yesterday, again announcing that he will surely score a nice location for his embalming tank if some one does not erect here pretty darned soon. This is his last warning to our citizens, who we hope will regard it as a business proposition and relieve the present situation by importing a few necrotomists. We should regret Jim's departure, as he is the best pool player in town.

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LIGHT-HEARTED TONY PASTOR

Characteristic Act of Theatrical Men Related by Astress.

A very beautiful actress, at a luncheon, told a story about the late Tony Pastor.

"Before I went on the stage," she said, "I was a typewriter girl. My employer happened to fail, and I advertised for a new situation. One of those who answered my advertisement was Mr. Pastor, and I put his name on my list, and in due course called on him."

"But he told me I was too late. He had engaged a typewriter early that morning. He was very sorry, then. I'm terribly disappointed. I'd ever so much rather work for you."

"What, has old Kooper, the banker, made you an offer?" Mr. Pastor cried.

"Yes," said I, "and a very generous one, too; but I prefer this office to his."

"And in this office you shall stay," said Mr. Pastor, whimsically. "We'll make room for you somehow. Why, my dear child, all my money is in Kooper's bank."

WHEN THE BEST WORK IS DONE.

At Times When the Body Rests and the Mind Is Active.

"The best work that most of us do," says Dr. Luther H. Gulick, in the *World's Work*, "is not begun in our offices or at our desks, but when we are wandering in the woods or sitting quietly with undirected thoughts. From somewhere at such times there flash into our minds those ideas that direct and control our lives, visions of how to do that which previously had seemed impossible, new aspirations, hopes and desires. Work is the process of realization. The careful balance and the great ideas become largely during quiet, and without the interruption of the 'boog' process."

This popular English diversion consists of bellowing through the hands, and no first night is supposed to be complete without these vocal interruptions.

On the night of Mr. Sothern's first performance, some 45 evil-looking men, bearing blackjacks in their sleeves were distributed throughout the gallery and pit.

There was no interruption from the audience that night, but only the occasional dull thud of blackjacks upon knuckles. Every hand that was raised, as a preliminary to the "boog" process, received a quick blow.

Mr. Worm says that he never saw so many limp hands and so many half-wild faces assembled in any one place as he saw that first night among the crowd that left the theater.

At the close of the week that dignified Journal, the *Times*, commented gravely upon the growing courtesy of English audiences toward American actors, and witnessed the case of six productions by Mr. Sothern without a single "boo"—Success.

Jap a Human Nonconductor.

Playing with death and laughing when it reached out to claim him for its own, Hakkadote, a Jap employee at the Hotel Castineda, was found at eight o'clock in the evening, recently, holding a live electric wire in his hands and touching it to the rails of the street car, just to see the sparks fly. The wire, which was the street car trolley, carried 22,000 volts of electricity.

When electricians came to repair the break, which had been caused by the wire burning in two, they would not touch it until the power had been shut down, but the Jap stood there with it in his hand gaily thrusting it out at them and laughing when they sprang back.

"It was the greatest wonder in the world he was not killed outright," said the chief electrician. "The only way I can account for it is that the Jap is a human nonconductor, or else that God takes care of fools."—*Las Vegas (N. M.) Dispatch* to *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

The Sailor's Prayer Book.

"This is what you call the sailor's prayer book," a seaman said bitterly, as he kicked a holystone out of the way. "Why is it called that? Well, in the first place it is called that because in using it, in holystoning the deck, the sailor has to kneel down, and in the second place, because all holystone is done on Sunday. Don't you know the chantey?"

Six days shalt thou work and do all that thou art able.

And on the seventh holystone the decks and escape the cable.

The stone is called holystone because the first holystones were bits of tombstones stolen from cemeteries. It's got a pious, religious sound—holy, and prayer book, and Sunday and all that—but it is when he is using this stone that the seaman is most profane.

Explanations in Order.

William Kost, an inspector in the office of the city engineer, is usually thoughtful and careful and he really wouldn't have embarrassed one of the young women at the city hall the other day if he could have helped it. He had given her some cigarette papers to clean her ring and when she was through with them he told her to keep them. She put them in her desk and was duly grateful. It was a week later and the office was full of men when he looked through his pockets for a paper. He had none. He looked through his desk and there was none there. A bright idea struck him.

"Miss—I'm sorry to give you pain," he said.

The men, most of them strangers, looked at her in astonishment.

"Yes," said she, "but really it's up to you to explain."

He did.—*Indianapolis Star*.

The Cow and the Hook.

"I understand," said the cow, "that an eastern man has invented a self-hooking waist."

"Yes," replied the cow. "I overheard the hired man saying something about it."

"Well, I'm glad of it," said the cow. "It will kill that idiotic vaudeville joke about my being the boss hooker."

And she went on ruminating.

Noting an Exception.

Mayme—I hate these affectionate girls.

Louie—Why, I always thought you were one of them.

Mayme—Well, anyway, I don't want Jane Jones to kiss me after she's been eating onions."

Getting Bald by Degrees.

"Is the minister very bald, pap?"

"No, my son, not very."

"Then why does it say after his name B. A. L. L. D.T.—Boston Transcript."

TIME HAD BROUGHT NO CHANGE

One Thing the Returning Traveler Took Note Of.

The Rev. Simon Purple was an eloquent speaker, but he seemed to have a list of sermons which, when he once began, he went right through to the end, and then started at the first sermon again, and so on.

A young man in the congregation was about to leave for South Africa, but the Sunday before he departed he attended the church service.

In the course of his lecture the minister used an illustration in which were the words: "A man can easily purchase two sparrows for three pence."

The young man, after being absent for about three years, returned, and again on the first opportunity attended divine service. Strange to say, he heard the same narrative by the same minister, about the two sparrows for three pence."

At the close of the service the minister, in his courtesy, came and shook hands with the youth, and, welcoming him back to his home, asked him if he noticed any changes about the place.

The young man, evidently quite unconcerned, replied: "Aye, man, there's two or three changes; but there's yin thing I can see, the price o' sparrows is aye at the same auld figger."

TAUGHT LESSON IN COURTESY.

One English Audience That Was Polite to an American.

That gifted public man, A. Toxin Worm, made the preposterous claim in London last winter, that he would see to it that there was no "hooley" of the actors at the opening performances of E. H. Sothern.

This popular English diversion consists of bellowing through the hands, and no first night is supposed to be complete without these vocal interruptions.